Dear Miss Mitchell,

Your letter about FRAME-UP has just reached me. Many other things have occupied my mind since I wrote the book, but I'd be quite surprised if I handled the justifiable criticism of Ramsey Clark other than I handled the equally-justified criticism of those I call the Mitchellisti. If you were familiar with my earlier work, you'd be without doubt that party political considerations do not figure in it. I doubt, foe example, that there has been a more reasoned yet forceful criticism of LBJ than is in the forward of PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH, written in the late Spring of 1967, and at that relatively early date dealing with Vietnam. Or of those made fampus by and close to JFK than is in the Epilogue to WHITEWASH II, dating to the fall of 1966.

On the other side, what can be taken as a defense of the Birchers, with whom I have no political sympathies, in the Intriduction to WHITEWASH.

In each case I deal with a specific issue. I believe the record leaves no doubt that the Commission abused the Birchers, for example.

I think it is good that readers examine serious works with a critical mind. But I'd like you to consider that the last part to which you object deals with a deliberate violation of law by the federal government, an incident unparallelled in Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence, and deliberate lying by the man now Attorney General (by the way, affirmed as falsehood in another suit and by his own assistant United States Attorney, in a suit I now have before the federal court of appeals in Washington). The case is unique. Analysis of it therefore is also different.

I have spot-checked the index. There are 29 page references to Clark. I did not ignore him. I doubt one page contains praise. There are but 16 pages referring to Kleindienst, and he was the adversary in that unique suit. There are 18 pages mentioning Mitchell.

Mr. Clark does regard me as an enemy.

I agree with your comment on our abuse of the Japanese-Americans, but I disagree with the evaluations. For example, it can't compare in bestiality, in my view, with what the Nixon administration is now doing in Southeast Asia, where the kindest treatment accorded innocent civilians is confining them in concentration camps that make ours of World War II like heaven.

You have no way of knowing of my private correspondence with newspapers each time they print spurious "analyses" by publicity-seeking psychiatrists that, in effect, solicit some nut to come forward and attempt another assassination. Bremer finally did it. However, the record is overwhelmingly the other way, particularly if one considers relatively minor figures. I have personal familiarity with assassinations of labor leaders going back to before the 1930s, when I was part of an investigation of them. There are the more recent ones, uncountable, really, of black and other minority militants. And you could have added Rockwell to Wallace. The law of averages required that ultimately there would have to be an exception, but as of today, no major leader of the right has been assassinated.

Thanks for taking the time. I enclose a list of the other books in case you would like to get them. One is out of print, and others I'd then expected to be able to bring out I have not. This is unrewarding work and my debt is at its upper limit.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg